

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 EUR-12 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /080 W
-----170606Z 101665 /23

R 161730Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4801
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 1282

PORT OF SPAIN FOR DONALD TICE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: GY, US

SUBJECT: GUYANESE VIEWS ON STATE OF RELATIONS WITH US
SUMMARY: ACTING FONMIN TOLD US CHARGE THIS WEEK THAT
CHANGES IN US FOREIGN POLICY UNDER CARTER ADMINISTRATION,
PARTICULARLY US ACCEPTANCE IN PRINCIPLE OF NEW INTERNATIONAL-
ECONOMIC ORDER AND ITS SOUTHERN AFRICA POLICY, HAD REMOVED MAJOR
DIFFERENCES IN US-GOG FOREIGN POLICIES. OTHER GUYANESE
ALSO HAVE EXPRESSED OPINION THAT RELATIONS SHOULD CONTINUE
IMPROVING. ALTHOUGH US POLICIES, HEIGHTENED AWARENESS BY
GUYANESE OF LIMITATIONS ON GUYANA, AND RECENT US
DIPLOMACY MAKE PROSPECTS FOR FRIENDLY US-GOG RELATIONS
BETTER THAN IN PAST, THE GUYANESE MAY BE TOO OPTIMISTIC.
SOME CAUSES OF FRICTION, INCLUDING THE GOG EFFORTS TO
BALANCE OFF EAST AND WEST, SOVIET AND CUBAN DIPLOMATIC
EFFORTS, AND THE PRESSURES GENERATED BY THE PRO-MOSCOW
OPPOSITION, ARE STILL PRESENT. THUS OPPORTUNITIES FOR
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IMPROVEMENT OF US-GUYANA RELATIONS ARE PRESENT, BUT SO
ARE POTENTIAL IMPEDIMENTS. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING DISCUSSION WITH ME ON JUNE 13 OF UNDER
SECRETARY HABIB'S SCHEDULE IN GUYANA, ACTING FONMIN HUBERT
JACK COMMENTED ON STATUS OF US-GOG RELATIONS. AMBASSADOR
MANN AND ACTING PERMSEC SEARWAR WERE ALSO PRESENT. JACK

HAD INQUIRED WHETHER THE UNDER SECRETARY HAD SPECIFIC SUBJECTS THAT HE WISHED TO DISCUSS AND I HAD REPLIED THAT I HAD NO SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON THAT BUT BELIEVED HE WOULD WANT TO DISCUSS US-GOG RELATIONS INCLUDING THE GOG'S CURRENT POSITIONS ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE US, THE THRUST OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S FOREIGN POLICIES, THE OVERALL SITUATION IN THE CARIBBEAN AND THE GOG'S PERSPECTIVE ON THE AREA. HE PROBABLY WOULD BE INTERESTED IN GUYANA'S POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PHILOSOPHY AND PLANS.

2. DURING THE ENSUING DISCUSSION, JACK SAID THINGS HAD CHANGED DRAMATICALLY SINCE LAST YEAR. IN VIEW OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S NEW APPROACHES TO NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES, PARTICULARLY ITS ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONCEPT THAT A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER SHOULD BE CREATED, AND ITS POLICIES ON SOUTHERN AFRICA, MAJOR PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE US AND THE GOG HAD BEEN REMOVED. THE REMAINING DIFFERENCES WERE MATTERS OF DEGREE RATHER THAN OPPOSING POINTS OF VIEW.

3. COMMENT: JACK'S VIEW THAT MAJOR DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE US AND GUYANA ON SIGNIFICANT FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES NO LONGER EXIST APPEARS TO BE GENERALLY SHARED BY MANY GUYANESE; HOWEVER, THE REASONS FOR THIS APPARENT CHANGE DIFFER ACCORDING TO THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE PERSON DOING THE COMMENTING. MODERATES IN THE GOVERNMENT, AWARE THAT MUCH OF THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PAST PROBLEMS RESTED WITH THE GOG AND THE WAY ITS POLICIES WERE EXPRESSED, HAVE

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WELCOMED THE NEW ATTITUDE ON THE PART OF THEIR MORE RADICAL AND SUSPICIOUS COLLEAGUES. THE LATTER TEND TO ASSERT THAT THEY WERE RIGHT ALL ALONG, BUT WELCOME THE US' MOVEMENT TOWARD THE GOG'S POSITIONS. THE IMPORTANT THING, HOWEVER, IS THAT THE STEADY IMPROVEMENT IN US-GOG RELATIONS SINCE JANUARY APPEARS TO BE WELCOMED BY THE MAJORITY OF GUYANESE.

4. I SUSPECT THAT SOME OF OUR GUYANESE FRIENDS MAY BE OVER-OPTIMISTIC ABOUT OBSTACLES TO GOOD RELATIONS HAVING DISAPPEARED. TRUE, A NUMBER OF FACTORS, INCLUDING THE WAY THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS DEFINED AND EXPRESSED ITS POLICIES, RECENT US DIPLOMACY, AN INCREASED MATURITY ON THE PART OF SOME GUYANESE OFFICIALS AND LEADERS, PLUS THE PRESSURES OF GUYANA'S ECONOMIC TROUBLES, MAKE THE PROSPECTS FOR FRIENDLY US-GOG RELATIONS BETTER THAN THEY HAVE BEEN FOR YEARS. NEVERTHELESS, FACTORS STILL EXIST WHICH COULD CAUSE FRICTION IN US-GOG RELATIONS. THE LATTER INCLUDE THE PENCHANT OF THE GOG TO TRY TO

MAINTAIN A BALANCE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST, THE DIPLOMATIC
EFFORTS OF THE SOVIETS AND THE CUBANS AIMED AT ACQUIRING
A FOOTHOLD ON THE SOUTH AMERICAN CONTINENT, THE
ACTIVITIES OF A STRONG PRO-SOVIET AND ANTI-US OPPOSITION,
AND THE CURRENT POLITICAL TROUBLES OF BURNHAM'S PEOPLE'S
NATIONAL CONGRESS (PNC). ANY OF THESE COULD POSE
PROBLEMS FOR THE US IN GUYANA.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS
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Sent Date: 16-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
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Subject: GUYANESE VIEWS ON STATE OF RELATIONS WITH US SUMMARY: ACTING FONMIN TOLD US CHARGE THIS WEEK THAT CHANGES IN US FOREIGN POLICY UNDER CARTER ADMINIST
TAGS: PGOV, GY, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4c09077c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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